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Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Global health and foreign policy

Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/72/L.40

Forty-seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered an advance version of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/72/L.40 (A/C.5/72/22). During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with responses received on 16 March 2018.

2. Under the terms of draft resolution A/72/L.40, the General Assembly would decide that the one-day high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis convened by the President of the General Assembly should be held in New York on the second day of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-third session, consisting of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment. The required resources would amount to a total of $59,700, comprising: (a) $49,800 under section 2, General Assembly and Social Council affairs and conference management; and (b) $9,900 under section 28, Public information. It is further indicated in the statement that no provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the requested activities and that it would not be possible at present to identify activities within the sections concerned that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium (see A/C.5/72/22, paras. 4–8).

3. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the requested amount represents 0.017 per cent of the $289,169,988 currently available from the total amount appropriated for the biennium 2018–2019 under section 2 ($311,579,400). As regards section 28, the requested amount represents 0.014 per cent of the $18,786,974 currently available from the total appropriation of $88,056,400 under that section.

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The Committee was also informed that it is recognized that the draft resolution calls for the engagement of the Office of the President of the General Assembly in support of the mandate and that, should it be determined that additional capacity were required to support those activities, resources contributed to the trust fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly could be used.

4. The Advisory Committee points out that, in the past, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, as well as other departments of the Secretariat, have on occasion absorbed resource requirements arising from new or expanded activities during the course of a biennium (see, e.g., A/70/7/Add.36, para. 8). In this regard, the Committee is cognizant that, should resource requirements arise from further unplanned activities, it might not be possible to absorb them in their entirety during the biennium 2018–2019.

5. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to absorb the additional requirements requested under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 in the amount of $49,800 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and in the amount of $9,900 under section 28, Public information.**